

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 03014 241404Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 EB-07 IGA-02 COME-00 CIAE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 PRS-01 /033 W
-----075164 241551Z /47
R 241250Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4384

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 3014

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SWEL ECON LE
SUBJ: REMARKS OF MINISTER OF HOUSING AND INTERIOR

REF: BEIRUT 2994

1. IN CONVERSATION WITH ME AFTER REF SIGNING CEREMONY FOR HOUSING AGREEMENT, SALAH SALMAN (WHO IS BOTH MINISTER OF HOUSING AND INTERIOR) REMARKED THAT GOL HAD JUST BEGUN TO TEAR DOWN SQUATTER SHACKS IN KHALDE (NEAR BEIRUT AIRPORT). HE DESCRIBED PROBLEM OF MOVING SQUATTERS OUT OF ILLEGALLY OCCUPIED AREAS AS VERY COMPLEX AND DIFFICULT. HE WAS UNSURE HOW FAR GOL COULD PROCEED WITH KHALDE OPERATION: HE HAD ALREADY BEGUN TO "GET ECHOES" ABOUT IT.

2. SALMAN SAID IT WAS "IMPOSSIBLE" FOR GOL POLICE TO ENSURE PEOPLE OBEYED LAW. IN PART, THIS WAS DUE TO LACK OF MEN AND EQUIPMENT. MORE IMPORTANTLY, HOWEVER, WAS LEBANESE LACK OF SELF-DISCIPLINE AND LACK OF SENSE OF BELONGING TO LARGER ENTITY WHOSE RULES MUST BE OBEYED.

3. FINALLY, SALMAN COMPLAINED THAT BUSINESSMEN AND RESIDENTS WERE PLACING GREAT PRESSURE ON GOL TO ALLOW THEM TO MOVE BACK TO DOWNTOWN BEIRUT. SALMAN BELIEVED THAT THESE PEOPLE SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO RETURN UNTIL PLANNING FOR RECONSTRUCTION OF CENTER CITY WAS COMPLETED. HOWEVER, HE FEARED GOL WOULD
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BE ABLE TO RESIST PRESSURE ONLY "PARTLY." I NOTED THAT THIS WAS UNFORTUNATE FROM PLANNING PERSPECTIVE, BUT GOOD OMEN IN THAT IT DEMONSTRATED CONFIDENCE IN LEBANON'S ECONOMIC FUTURE.
PARKER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HOUSING, SQUATTERS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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From: BEIRUT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770623/aaaaauas.tel
Line Count: 60
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: fc884977-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Retention: 0
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Review Release Date: n/a
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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REMARKS OF MINISTER OF HOUSING AND INTERIOR
TAGS: SWEL, ECON, LE, (SALMAN, SALAH)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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